



File Code: 2210/2230

Date: April 22, 2014

Rancho Escondido, LLC
ATTN: Michael T. Nelson
380 E. Main 2nd Floor, Building B
Midway, UT 84049

Dear Permittee:

This letter will serve as your Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) for the Lonesome Park Allotment during the 2013 grazing season. The following items were discussed and agreed upon at our annual meeting held in Vernal, Utah on March 21st, 2014 with Morgan Beal and Garry Brown and will guide our management of the allotment this year:

Grazing Schedule

The scheduled dates below are to be used as guidelines. The amount of time spent in each unit will depend upon actual forage utilization and distribution patterns. It is the responsibility of the permittee to move cattle when allowable use standards are met. The dates proposed and the units scheduled are tentative and depend upon the availability of forage, water, and the effects of weather. We will follow the proposed schedule unless there is good reason to change. Please let us know in advance if you anticipate any variance from this schedule.

Lonesome Park Allotment – Grazing Schedule for the Vernal Ranger District

Unit	Kind/Class	Numbers	Proposed Dates	Utilization Benchmarks
East Dyers Park	Cattle (cow/calf)	150	June 20 – Sept. 25	≤ 50% of key forage species ≥ 4” residual stubble height of graminoids along the greenline

Lonesome Park Allotment – Grazing Schedule for the Flaming Gorge District

Unit	Kind/Class	Numbers	Proposed Dates	Utilization Benchmarks
Dowd Mountain	Cattle (cow/calf)	150	June 20 – Aug. 5	≤ 50% of key forage species ≥ 4” residual stubble height of graminoids along the greenline
Eagle Basin	Cattle (cow/calf)	150	Aug. 6 – Sept. 15	≤ 50% of key forage species ≥ 4” residual stubble height of graminoids along the greenline



Proper Allowable Use

Proper allowable grazing use will not exceed 50 percent, by weight, of key forage species in Kane Hollow and 40 percent in the East Park and Round Park Meadows. Proper allowable use in other riparian areas will be limited to 65 percent utilization on key forage species until July 15. Between July 15 and August 15, grazing use will be limited to 45 percent. After August 15, use on key species in riparian areas will be limited to 30 percent, with a remainder **stubble height of no less than 4 inches** left on all stream-side areas at the end of the grazing season. Monitoring will occur within the key areas noted above. Proper allowable use will not exceed 45 percent, by weight, of current year's growth on key forage species within key upland sites. Once utilization levels have been achieved in key areas, you will be required to move into the next scheduled unit or off of the forest. It is the responsibility of the permittee to move cattle when allowable use standards are met. Therefore, it is important that your livestock be distributed as evenly as possible.

Grazing Fees

Your Bill for Collection for the upcoming grazing season has been previously sent. Please ensure that this bill is paid by the due date. You will not be allowed to place livestock onto National Forest lands until verification of payment is received in our office.

Herding Responsibilities

The Allotment Management Plan requires a full-time rider to ensure proper livestock distribution patterns and utilization levels. Please make sure that the rider understands the importance of moving cattle away from riparian areas, because utilization levels achieved in these areas will determine how long you are allowed to stay on the Allotment. Please review your full time rider's camping location with your Rangeland Management Specialist before you set up camp so that the site can be approved. This letter is your authorization to camp there the length of the grazing season or until required to move. Please note that you are required to keep a clean and orderly camp.

Range Improvement Maintenance and Construction

All Allotment boundary fences, water developments, and other improvements will be maintained before livestock are allowed onto the Allotment. We will be inspecting the fences and other developments before livestock go on and if the repairs are not done, you will not be allowed onto the Allotment.

Weed Free Hay

Any hay or straw used in association with your grazing permit must be certified and tagged as noxious weed seed free as directed by Forest Service Order #04-00-097. Please ensure that any hay, straw or mulch used on the Forest complies with this order.

Records

Enclosed is a Grazing Use Record. Please use this form to keep track of your livestock movements into and out of pastures. Make sure that the information is correct and returned to our office **no later than October 31th**.

We look forward to working with you again this year, and appreciate your willingness to cooperate with us in the proper management of the Ashley National Forest. If you have questions, please contact Garry Brown at (435) 781-5168 or (435) 790-7030 (cell) or Aaron Zobell at (435) 781-5279.

Sincerely,

NICHOLAS T. SCHMELTER
District Ranger

Enclosure (1)
Grazing Use Record

cc: Morgan Beal (Box 185, Altamont, UT 84001)
cc: Aaron Zobell (25 W Highway 43 Manila, UT 84046)